

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims

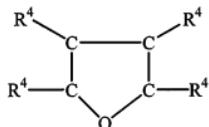
The following is a marked-up version of the claims with the language that is underlined ("____") being added and the language that contains strikethrough ("—") or enclosed by brackets being deleted:

1. (currently amended) A urea/urethane polymer consisting essentially of (a) repeating units derived from a hydroxy-terminated copolymer prepared from tetrahydrofuran and one or both of an alkylene oxide and a cyclic acetal, and (b) repeating units derived from a polyisocyanate, wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof,

wherein the urea/urethane polymer contains less than about 2 mole percent of urea units described by the formula $-R - N(R^2) - C(O) - N(R^2) - R^1 -$;

wherein R is an aromatic hydrocarbon radical, R^1 is an aliphatic hydrocarbon radical, and R^2 is H or an amide group that is described by the formula $-C(O) - N(R^2) - R -$;

wherein the tetrahydrofuran is described by the formula



in which any one of the R^4 's is a C_1 to C_4 alkyl radical or hydrogen with the remaining R^4 's being hydrogen;

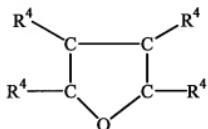
wherein the urea/urethane polymer comprises repeating units derived from an ionic compound or a potentially ionic compound;

wherein the polymer emits is derived without polyamine chain extenders; and
wherein said polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof.

2. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 1 wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of toluene diisocyanate, methylene diphenyldiisocyanate and polymethylene polyphenylisocyanate.
3. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 1 wherein the alkylene oxide is selected from the group consisting of 1,2-propylene oxide and ethylene oxide.
4. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 1 wherein the alkylene oxide is ethylene oxide.
5. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 1 wherein each R⁴ in the tetrahydrofuran is hydrogen.
6. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 1 wherein each R⁴ in the tetrahydrofuran is hydrogen, the hydroxy-terminated copolymer is prepared from an alkylene oxide, and the alkylene oxide is ethylene oxide.
7. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 1 wherein the urea/urethane polymer contains less than about 1 mole percent of the described urea units.
8. (canceled)
9. (currently amended) An aqueous dispersion of a urea/urethane polymer and a surfactant; wherein the urea/urethane polymer consists essentially of (a) repeating units derived from a hydroxy-terminated copolymer prepared from tetrahydrofuran and one or both of an alkylene oxide and a cyclic acetal, and (b) repeating units derived from a polyisocyanate, wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof; wherein the urea/urethane polymer contains less than about 2 mole percent of urea units described by the formula $-R - N(R^2) - C(O) - N(R^2) - R^1 -$;

wherein R is an aromatic hydrocarbon radical, R¹ is an aliphatic hydrocarbon radical, and R² is H or an amide group that is described by the formula - C(O) - N(R²) - R -; and

wherein the tetrahydrofuran is described by the formula



in which any one of the R⁴'s is a C₁ to C₄ alkyl radical or hydrogen with the remaining R⁴'s being hydrogen;

wherein the urea/urethane polymer comprises repeating units derived from an ionic compound or a potentially ionic compound;

wherein the polymer emits is derived without polyamine chain extenders; and
wherein said polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof.

10. (currently amended) An ionomeric urea/urethane polymer consisting essentially of (a) repeating units derived from an aliphatic polyether polyol having a molecular weight of about 700 to about 1500, and (b) repeating units derived from a polyisocyanate, wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof.

wherein the urea/urethane polymer contains less than about 2 mole percent of urea units described by the formula -R - N(R²) - C(O) - N(R²) - R¹ -;

wherein R is an aromatic C₆ - C₂₀ hydrocarbon radical, R¹ is an aliphatic C₁ - C₂₀ hydrocarbon radical, and R² is H or an amide group that is described by the formula - C(O) - N(R²) - R -;

wherein the urea/urethane polymer comprises repeating units derived from an ionic compound or a potentially ionic compound;

wherein the polymer emits is derived without polyamine chain extenders; and
wherein said polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof.

11. (canceled)
12. (previously presented) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 10 wherein the ionic compound or potentially ionic compound comprises a hydroxy-carboxylic acid of the general formula $(HO)_xR^7(COOH)_y$, wherein R^7 represents a straight or branched hydrocarbon radical containing 1 to 12 carbon atoms, and x and y each independently represents values from 1 to 3.
13. (previously presented) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 10 wherein the ionic compound or potentially ionic compound comprises 2,2'-dimethanolpropionic acid.
14. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 10 wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of toluene diisocyanate, methylene diphenyldiisocyanate and polymethylene polyphenylisocyanate.
- 15-16. (canceled)
17. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 10 wherein the polyether polyol has a molecular weight in the range of about 900 to about 1150.
18. (original) A urea/urethane polymer according to Claim 10 wherein the urea/urethane polymer contains less than about 1 mole percent of the described urea units.
19. (currently amended) An aqueous dispersion of a ionomeric urea/urethane polymer and a surfactant; wherein the ionomeric urea/urethane polymer consists essentially of (a) repeating units derived from an aliphatic polyether polyol having a molecular weight of about 700 to about 1500, and (b) repeating units derived from a polyisocyanate, wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof.

wherein the urea/urethane polymer contains less than about 2 mole percent of urea units described by the formula $-R - N(R^2) - C(O) - N(R^2) - R^1 -$;

wherein R is an aromatic C₆ – C₂₀ hydrocarbon radical, R¹ is an aliphatic C₁ – C₂₀ hydrocarbon radical, and R² is H or an amide group that is described by the formula $-C(O) - N(R^2) - R -$;

wherein the urea/urethane polymer comprises repeating units derived from an ionic compound or a potentially ionic compound;

wherein the polymer ~~emits~~ is derived without polyamine chain extenders; and

wherein ~~said~~ polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of aromatic polyisocyanates and mixtures thereof.